

The Scars That I Bear

by KTM101

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Summary: Coming from an abusive home Lucy Heartfilia has never felt what love is like, however at her new high school a boy named Natsu Dragneel might be able to show her what love is. Collaboration with Kuudere Violinist! Hope you enjoy!

1. Chapter 1

****Hey guys! I'm so happy because this is a collab with my friend Kuudere Violinist!****

****We spent a lot of time writing this together so **I **hope you enjoy. Thanks for reading. Enjoy!****

I walked through the hall to the kitchen silently, not wanting to wake my father. I searched through the cabinets for food, hoping my father wouldn't find out I had taken food. When I was younger, back when my mom was alive, I would sneak food often, but for a different reason. I wouldn't sneak food out of hunger, but simply because I wanted a piece of chocolate. Back then I loved sweets, and I still do, even though I rarely have them. Sometimes I feel as if I'm still a little kid. I'm much more mature, and smart, but I love the same things as kids. I loved the little things in life, the things that most people wouldn't think twice about, such as the soft chirp of birds in the morning, or the sound of a babbling brook. My father hated those sounds, because they reminded him of my mother. He likes sounds that are much more harsh. Such as the crack of a whip, or the sound of bones breaking as he beat me senseless.

I turned to look at the clock. 12:30 am. I hadn't gotten much sleep that night because I had been attempting to patch up a few fresh cuts my father had given me. I knew I wasn't going to get much more, because I woke up everyday at 4:30 to clean the house and make breakfast. Then I got ready for school, applying heavy coats of makeup to conceal my bruises.

I froze in place as I heard the door to my father's room open, and

his rough footsteps leading to the kitchen. I dropped the food I had been holding and quickly hid it, so he wouldn't find out. He stormed into the kitchen, turned the light on, and grabbed my wrist. He pulled me into the living room harshly and threw me onto the ground. I winced in pain as he slapped me across the cheek. He grabbed a whip that had been resting on the counter and unraveled it. He cracked it at my arm creating a new cut that I would have to tend to later. Then he grabbed my wrist and dragged me to my room where he threw me onto the ground once again.

"Don't ever steal food again you little bitch," he spat.

The sound of my father's phone ringing in a nearby room caused him to leave, which allowed me to tend to my wounds. I pulled out my first-aid kit and disinfected the large cut on my arm. I groaned at the thought of having to wear a long sleeve shirt to school tomorrow. I knew it was going to be warm, and I was planning on wearing something more suited for hot weather.

After I was done cleaning the cut, i looked at the clock. It was only 1:00 am, so I knew I had a few hours to sleep before I had to start my chores. I lay down on the floor; my father refused to buy me an actual bed. He thought I was just a waste of space, time, and money, but for some reason he wouldn't kill me. It puzzled me because he was always talking about how awful I was, and how he wished I didn't exist. Sometimes I wished he would just kill me.

I shook the thought out of my head as I slowly let my eyelids fall. I dreamt of nice things for once; my dreams are always filled with the crack of the whip I dreaded so much and my father's evil glare and cruel smile leering over me. Tonight, however, I dreamt of a boy. A boy with spiky hair and kind eyes like balls of warm fire from the hearth who smiled at me as if I was the most precious thing in the world. I dreamt of this boy kissing my scars and telling me I was his light. And for once, I smiled and rested happily instead of my frequent tossing and turning. The night passed peacefully for me, and it was all too soon that morning came.

I woke up to the sound of my alarm clock. The clock that usually saved me from the torturous dreams that I experience every night. This morning, however, the clock did not save me, but rather pull me out of my lovely fantasy. I sighed sadly at the dream, because I knew it would never come true. I knew that i would never experience the love that i had felt in that one dream. A love so passionate and special that I would gladly give my life for a simple taste of it.

I turned my head to the clock, noticing that it was already 4:30. "_Shit I'm late!"_ I thought. I ran out of the hall wincing in pain as my cuts sent a new wave of pain through me.

As I did my chores, I thought about my new school. I thought about the hope of a new start, a new life. I quickly discarded the thought. People like me aren't allowed to get a new start. People like me don't get or deserve love like the love in my dream. People like me stay alone their whole lives and die sad, like I know one day I will. I couldn't help but hope that that day is soon. I often thought of taking my own life, knowing it would be easier than waiting for my own demise.

I sighed. No time to ponder this now. There were chores to be done

and school to go to. I finished my chores and headed to the kitchen to begin breakfast. I was never allowed to make actual breakfast food, because it reminded my father of my mom. She always made breakfast in the morning. I was only allowed to eat one meal a day, and usually that was dinner; that was why I was so impossibly skinny. I often got bullied at school for this.

"_Anorexic bitch."_

"_She's just doing it because she's a slut."_

"_Yeah, news flash, slut, no boy will ever love you."_

These were the kinds of words I used to hear everyday, and i expected to hear them again at this new school. I was used to the cruel words though, My father used much harsher language when he spoke to me.

I checked my watch. 7:10, it read. I had to leave for school now if I wanted to be there on time. The school wasn't that far away, but I had to walk because my dad didn't let me use the car. Even though I was seventeen, I had never learned how to drive.

I ran through the door quickly, and made my way down the street towards the school, Fairy Tail High. I burst through the doors just as the bell rang, for my first period of the day. Nothing horrible happened, I just walked to the back of the room and sat in a desk in the corner. The teacher did ask me to introduce myself, however, but I just did the standard thing. My name is Lucy Heartfilia. I used to go to Phantom Lord Academy. After I introduced myself, I plopped back down. The teacher, Mr. Makarov, asked me if there was anything else I'd like to say, but I just shook my head no, and I didn't say a word for the rest of class.

The day went by quickly and similar to my first period, Soon it was my off period. I decided it was best if I looked around the school a bit to get to know it better, since I had no lunch to eat. I was walking briskly down a hall, when all of a sudden, I collided into someone, sending their books flying.

"Sorry," I said quickly.

I wasn't one for making friends so I didn't intend on staying long to chat. In fact i was just about to turn and walk away when i felt a strong hang wrap around my wrist. I winced, because this feeling reminded me too well of what my father would do before he beat me. I prepared for a beating, but instead I heard kind words.

"Why ya wincing? I'm not gonna hurt you," I turned around to see the very same boy from my dream. The boy who showed me the most love and affection I had ever felt.

"Hey my name's Natsu! Natsu Dragneel! What's yours?" The boy asked.

I said nothing as I felt my face flush a brilliant shade of red. Without a word i turned swiftly and walked the other direction. I put the thought of Natsu out of my brain. It was foolish of me to dwell on a boy I'd met in a dream who probably had a girlfriend. There was no such thing as love for a person like me, and that's just how it is.

But I would soon discover I was wrong.

2. Chapter 2

****Hey guys sorry this took so long to update we were kinda be procrastinating. Thanks for reading enjoy.****

The day went by fairly quickly for me and soon it was time to walk home. There was, however, one blip in my otherwise flawless -or as flawless as you got when you had a life like mine- day. This blip went by the name of Natsu Dragneel. I supposed not telling him my name was a bad idea, because for the entire day, Natsu tried to catch me in hallways and classes we had together to talk. I'd managed to evade him the whole day, but I'd left school late, and I knew that I would suffer for this at the hands of my father. I turned the corner of the street only to crash right into the aforementioned pink-haired teen.

"Whoa, you okay?" Natsu asked me, "Second time I've run into you today."

I timidly tucked a strand of hair behind my ear and fumbled with my shirt.

"I'm fine. I really need to go," I said abruptly, running past him.

"Wait, can I walk home with you?" He asked, catching up to me.

I picked up the pace and shook my head fervently, "N-no. Iâ€|"

I checked my watch. It read 4:30. Panic swelled up inside of me. I sped up into a sprint and outran him.

"Can I at least get your name?" I heard him call from behind me.

I ignored him and charged, full speed, towards home.

When I got to my doorstep, I cracked the door open slowly and hoped my dad was still at work.

"LUCY!" A harsh voice rang out.

I guessed he wasn't at work.

I turned around to face my dad. He bent down to look me straight in the eye.

"You're late. You were supposed to be home by 4:00."

"I-I'm really sorry. It won't happen again," I mumbled.

Quick as a flash, he grabbed my wrist. I winced.

"YOU'RE LATE BY HALF AN HOUR LUCY! WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAVE DELAYED YOU!?" He screamed.

"I'm sorry," I said timidly, "I just was talking to this

boy- "

"TALKING TO A BOY? AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT PATHETIC EXCUSE? WHAT BOY WOULD EVEN WANT TO TALK TO YOU? WHAT BOY OR GIRL OR ANY HUMAN FOR THAT MATTER WOULD GIVE A DAMN ABOUT YOUR PATHETIC WEAK SELF?" He screamed.

He threw me to the floor and started dragging me by my hair. I winced in pain and wrestled to get free. He dragged me to the basement and tossed me roughly down the stairs. Ow, that was going to leave a bruise. He yanked my wrists up and started tying them together roughly. He hung me up on the ceiling and left the room.

"I'll be back. Don't move," he said.

I struggled to get down from where I hung. I kicked my legs and wriggled my wrists to no avail. The one thing I could say for my dad is he's an expert knot-tier.

"Don't bother trying to get down," my dad's cruel voice leered.

Fear swelled in my stomach. He's back. My gaze traveled down to what he was holding in his hand. A red hot iron. I squirmed, panic rising in my throat. He walked slowly towards me. I scream. In a flash he's right beside me.

"Shut your mouth, bitch," he said, clamping a strong hand over my mouth.

With his free hand, he lifted my arm. I struggled more, tears coming to my eyes. He twisted my arm painfully, and my sobs were stifled with his hand.

He lifted the iron. The hot red tip touched my shoulder. I screamed into his hand. He started to drag the iron slowly down my arm. Tears spilled from my cheeks, my screams and sobs muffled in his hand. The scent of burning flesh filled my nostrils. The pain was blinding. The iron continued to travel down my arm. I kicked and screamed and sobbed to no avail. The smell overpowered me. He's laughing now. A maniacal laugh that strained my ears. By the time the iron reached my wrist, he's positively screaming in delight.

He stops and drops the iron.

"I hope you learned your lesson, bitch," he spits.

Then he leaves the room.

The pain is positively excruciating. The ropes pull at my arms and rip the wound burned into my skin wide open. And so I hang there, crying and screaming and in pain, for two hours before I finally blackout.

3. Chapter 3

hey guys! So just so you know I kinda cried while writing part of this so... Thanks for reading enjoy!

I woke up later still hanging from the ceiling. My arms ached, and

the burn still stung. I heard footsteps coming down the stairs. I saw the figure of my father turn the corner with a knife. A small whimper of fear escaped my mouth. I closed my eyes preparing for pain, but none came. I fell to the ground with a thud and sighed with relief as I slowly let my arms drop. I rubbed my wrists gratefully, but soon my father grabbed me again and began dragging me down the hall to my room. He threw me to the ground and slammed the door behind him as he left. I looked at the clock. If I didn't hurry I would be late for school and my dad would be angry. The only reason I'm even allowed to go to school is because it was my mom's last wish that i graduated college.

I sighed and pulled out my kit. As I disinfected my wounds, I wondered why my father bothered to keep me around at all. Sure I knew why he kept me in school, but why not just get rid of me? He sure hated me enough. I figured it was just because I was cheap labor. I sighed. No time to dwell on this now. I had to get to school

I opened the door to my first class and took my seat in the back as usual. Usually, I was accompanied in the back by a petite girl with short spiky blue hair who was never without her laptop. She'd tried getting me to talk before, but soon realized her efforts would be fruitless. Most days, she left me alone. I was grateful for it. In all my classes, I had somehow managed to be able to sit next to someone that had learned quickly not to bother me.

As usual I had no lunch today, so I decided to study. If I didn't get A's, my dad would beat me far worse than he already did. I hurried to the library and sat down in an open seat.

"Hey!" I heard a familiar voice call. "I never got your name!"

It was Natsu. "_Why won't he just leave me alone?" _I thought.

"Uhâ€¦. Lucy," I murmured.

"Nice to meet ya, Luce! Can I study with ya?"

I took a step back.

"Actually I was just leaving," I said hurriedly before running out the door down the hall.

I heard footsteps come after me and turned around to see Natsu following me. I turned the corner hurriedly and ran through the double doors that lead out of the school. As soon as I arrived outside, I could feel the warm sun on my face. I sat down on a bench just outside my school. Soon, however, Natsu caught up to me and sat down next to me.

"Why did you run?" he asked "I'm not gonna do anything to ya,"

I cringed at these words. The very same words I heard my father say just before he beat me.

"_I'm not gonna do anything to you, i just want to have a little fun with my little girl," _

And I believed him. Every word. Every phrase that manage to escape

his drunk lips. I had believed them all. What else was i supposed to do? I was only seven. I had no idea that it would escalate to how bad it was. When I was young, I thought everyone was beat by their dad, until I went to school for the first time.

Natsu snapped me out of my thoughts.

"Hey, you ok?" He asked.

I thought he was worried, but dismissed the thought. Who would be worried about a worthless bitch like me. He touched my shoulder lightly. I cringed again.

"Uh, yeah...I'mâ€¦I'm, uh, fine," I barely managed to say.

I wasn't good around people, I had never been. It was my dad's fault, it was always my dad's fault.

Natsu smiled, and it warmed me up inside. Suddenly I heard a voice calling his name, and a girl with short white hair appeared. She was giggling happily as she turned the corner.

Natsu smiled. "Hey Lisanna!"

They began to talk, and any semblance of hope i had before now melted. Of course he had a girlfriend. And even if he didn't, why would he even think about liking someone like me? I got up from the bench quickly and headed back towards the school. If I hurried, he wouldn't be able to find me. The period was almost over anyways so it didn't really matter.

School was over shortly and soon i was walking home. I was about to turn a corner when I felt a strong hand wrap around my wrist. My heart rate quickened, and I whipped around to see who it was. Once I did, I breathed a sigh of relief. Of course it was only Natsu who had a wide grin as per usual.

"What happened earlier? Why did you leave? I was about to introduce you to my cousin Lisanna.."

So it was just his cousin after all.

"Hey i was wondering if you wanted to hang out after school tomorrow," he said.

I was shocked. I stepped back and replied quickly, "Maybe..." "_What am i thinking, my dad will find out for sure if I do hang out with him," _I thought, and without saying anything else, I turned on my heels and ran.

"Lucy!" I heard him call behind me, but I didn't look back. I kept on running and turning right and left until I was a block from my house. I was going so fast that I tripped and scraped my knee against the hard cement. Before I could get up and keep running, Natsu was beside me.

"You ok?" he offered me a hand, but i rejected it and stood up by myself.

I pushed past him and attempted to continue to my house but he

grabbed my hand again, twisting me around.

"What's wrong with you?! What have i done!? I just met you and i'm trying to be friends, but you keep rejecting me! what 's wrong with me?!"

The words stung like the hot iron rod that burned my skin. I could feel tears form in my eyes as they silently began to fall. Natsu noticed this and released me. I crumpled to the ground and threw my hands up to my face. I wished I could say something. I wished I could befriend this kind boy, and eventually, tell him of my plight. I wanted to be able to tell him about my mom dying and my dad taking it out on me. I wanted to tell him about my regular beatings if i wasn't home on time, and most of all, I wanted to tell him that it wasn't his fault. I wanted to cry and scream that it wasn't his fault. That it was all because of me. That it was my fault. All my fault. I knew that i deserved this because it was my fault Mom had died. _My fault, all my fault. This is all my fault. All my fault. _I thought silently to myself. If I hadn't been born none of this wouldn't have happened. My mom wouldn't have gotten sick from giving birth to me, she wouldn't have died, my dad wouldn't have become the hollow broken shell of the man he once was, and Natsu wouldn't have to blame himself for something he didn't do. If i had only died instead of my mom during labor things would be different.

"All my fault...all my fault. This is all my fault," I murmured to myself.

I had begun to rock back and forth with my head in my hands. My crying had slowed but quiet sobs still escaped my mouth. I continued to murmur to myself over and over again. "All my fault.."

Natsu began to shake me, "Lucy! What's all your fault!? What's going on?! Say something please!"

I just continued to rock back and forth slowly. "Lucyâ€|" he was cut off by the sound of a car. I looked up in fear. It was my dad, and expression of false worry covering his face.

"Lucy!" He called, "Are you alright?"

"Are you her dad?" Natsu asked.

My dad got out of his car.

"Yes, I was wondering where she was, and I decided to look for her."

He knelt down beside me, a look of false concern on his face.

"Oh my dear sweet Lucy," he said, "She's had these sorts of attacks since her mother passed away."

"I'm very sorry to hear that," Natsu said, the corners of his eyes turning down.

My dad picked me up. For now, his touch was gentle, as we were in the presence of someone else, but I knew that as soon as we got home, his touch would be far less gentle. I wanted to wriggle out of his grasp, but I couldn't make myself move. I couldn't do anything. All I could

do was let myself be placed in the back seat of the car, watching Natsu's face fade away into the distance as we drove off.

4. Chapter 4

****Hey guys! So this chapter is really short but it came earlier than the last one so! Also we're uploading 3 at once that are all super super short soâ€¦| Thanks for reading enjoy!****

When we arrived home, my father shoved me out of the car and threw me into the house. I tumbled onto the ground and a cry of pain escaped my bleeding lips. He punched me in the eye sending a wave of pain through my face. He began to walk out the door, "I'm going to the bar," He slammed the door behind him. I heard his car start up. The noise slowly faded as he rode off into the distance.

I lay there on the ground for a while thinking about Natsu. "_He sounded concerned," _ I Thought, "_Actually concerned. Maybeâ€¦|" _I shook the thought out of my head. He probably just sounded concerned because he was a good person, not because he cared. I pushed myself up so that I was sitting on the ground. If my dad was drinking that meant he'd probably beat me when he got home, but that also meant I had a few hours to make things right with Natsu.

I rushed over to his house, I knew where it was because I had seen him walk home before, and he lived fairly close to school. I knocked on the door I stepped back praying to God that he would forgive me, and that I would be able to make things right. I knew I shouldn't get my hopes up, but I couldn't help it.

Natsu opened the door and stood back in shock, but then he quickly began to smile.

"Hey Luce," He closed the door behind him and stepped next to me.

We began to walk down the street.

"I'm sorry that I ran off earlier. It's nothing personal, Iâ€¦|"

He cut me off, "Yeah, I know. Your dad told me everything. I'm really sorry about your mom,"

I began to turn red, but not because of embarrassment like one would assume. My face turned red with anger, because my dad always told lies. Always. It was as if he couldn't help it. Natsu looked at me obviously expecting an answer. I knew that I had to lie too.

"Thanksâ€¦| well now that everything is cleared up, I guess I should go nowâ€¦|"

He cut me off again.

"Waitâ€¦|"

I turned to face him.

He had a slight blush on his face and was looking down sheepishly.

"Iâ€¦" He began. "Iâ€¦ I uh.."

He stopped for a while to think. " I've kinda liked you for a while andâ€¦" He rubbed the back of his neck, " andâ€¦"

I pulled him into a hug before he could finish.

"This must be what love feels like.." I whispered to myself.

Natsu looked down at me, "What?"

"Nothing" I replied. I allowed my smile to linger a while before we pulled away. My smile faded as I remembered my current situation.

"Iâ€¦ i think we should just be friendsâ€¦" I said.

My heart broke as i saw his face. I could see the disappointment. Tears began to form in his eyes and he wiped them away impatiently.

"I'm sorry Iâ€¦" I began, but he cut me off yet again.

"No i get it Lucy. I understandâ€¦ some people just aren't good enough for your standards," He said angrily.

"Natsu," I reached out, but he moved away.

"No Lucy just stop! It'll make things easier for the both of us!" He yelled.

He was crying by now, and I could feel tears threatening to fall in my own eyes.

"Sorry i wasted your time!"

With that, he began to storm away. My heart broke. I couldn't take it anymore. I cried for the second time today. I began screaming and crying, cursing myself for having been born. It all felt as if it was my fault, my fault for being born.

"Why!?" I cried out.

Natsu stopped and turned around. Before I could comprehend what was happening, Natsu had begun to run towards me. He pulled me into a tight hug. "_What going on!?" _I thought.

"Lucy I'm sorry...I'm so so sorry," He was crying now as well.

"I shouldn't have yelled," He said calmly.

I had no idea how to respond, so i cried. I cried until I could cry no more. I pulled away calmly and looked at Natsu. His face was just as red and puffy as mine.

"You're right," he began, "We should just be friends. I rushed things and I'm sorry,"

I smiled at him then I looked at my phone. "Crap!" i yelled "I gotta

go, Natsu! I'll talk to you later!" I hurried off to my house, hoping my father hadn't returned.

When I arrived, I was relieved to see my father had yet to return. I hurried to the bathroom and washed my face. It was late, so I decided to go to sleep for the night.

I woke up the next morning to find that my father was still gone. I hurried off to school before he could return, glad to have escaped at least one night of punishment. Oh yeah, and now, I finally have a friend.

5. Chapter 5

****Hey guys! This is a super short chapter. Sorry! Thanks for reading enjoy!****

When I arrived at school, I was feeling a lot better than I ever had, due to not receiving a beating, and for once, with the help of my new friend (Friend! I loved saying that word! I had a friend!), I could hope for a good day.

"Hey Lucy!"

I turned around to see Natsu waving enthusiastically at me. I immediately brightened and walked over with a spring in my step. When I got closer, I noticed he wasn't alone. He was standing with a couple other kids, one of which was his cousin. I slowed down a bit. They must have been Natsu's other friends. It was obvious he wanted to introduce me. What if they didn't like me?

"Hi!" Natsu said as I approached.

"Hello," I said shyly.

"I wanted to introduce you to some of my friends!" Natsu gestured towards the other kids.

"Hey," the dark-haired boy waved at me, "I'm Gray."

"Juvia!" the girl with long blue hair hanging onto Gray's arm said. She leaned closer to me.

"And Gray is mine and no one else's," She hissed in my ear. I nodded hastily.

She smiled brightly, "Good!"

The strong tall red-haired girl waggled her fingers, "Erza."

"Levy!" my tiny blue-haired desk neighbor said, "But we've met."

She winked. I smiled a bit.

"Gajeel," the grumpy looking tall guy with his arm draped around Levy said.

"And I'm Lisanna!" Natsu's cousin said happily, "And we've sort of met."

"Everyone, this is Lucy!" Natsu .

My name seemed to have some sort of effect on everyone, because the minute he said it Juvia, Lisanna, and Levy giggled, Erza looked amused, and Gray and Gajeel shared a side smirk. I started to panic. What did I do?

"So this is the famous Lucy," Gray said in a teasing tone.

Natsu turned red, "I-"

Juvia giggled, "So, she's just a friend, huh?"

Natsu shifted uncomfortably, "Shut up."

"Interesting," Erza shared a side glance with Levy, "Don't you think Levy?"

Levy chuckled, "Indeed, because as I recall, when you told us about Lucy, you distinctly said, 'Lucy's going to be my girlfrie-"

"Okay!" Natsu grabbed my arm, "We've got to go to class now."

His face was bright red.

"Bye Lucy!" Lisanna yelled.

"Bye Natsu's girlfriend!" Gajeel shouted while laughing.

"Shut your mouth!" Natsu screamed, while dragging me.

I was thoroughly confused. Did they like me? Did I do something wrong?

"Did I make a good impression?" I asked.

Natsu grinned widely, "Totally!"

"Then what was that at the end?"

Natsu turned red again and rubbed the back of his neck, "Trust me. They totally love you. Soâ€¦ let's just forget about that, okay? Now off to class!"

"Umâ€¦ Natsu?"

"Yes Lucy?"

"I-I'm in a different class than you."

Natsu stopped, "Right! Sorry!"

I giggled. Today was showing to be a pretty good day!

6. Chapter 6

****Hey guys! So this is a short chapter and it only took like an hour to write butâ€¦ Thanks for reading Enjoy!****

After I had made it to my real class, I took my normal seat in the back of the class. I rested my head on my hand with a sigh. Maybe life could be better, maybe there was something more than just whips and hot irons. I sighed again. Maybe my dream wasn't just a dream, but maybe's are risky things. Maybe's aren't always true. Maybe's can deceive.

Levy broke my concentration on the topic of unforgiving maybe's with a poke on the shoulder.

"Hey!" she cheered.

I smiled in return. Friends. Such an interesting word. People usually used it so loosely. I had never had a friend, so I couldn't say what it meant to me. I thought it meant someone who was there for you, someone you could trust. I know better now, friends are more than just reliable people. Friends are an extension of family, or in my case, just plain family.

Class started, but i couldn't get my mind off of Natsu's friends. I wondered why they were acting so weird. "_Was it me? No i-it couldn't beâ€¦. Could it?" _I sighed for a third time. I knew I shouldn't think about it but I had never felt true love before, this was a first.

I heard the teacher call my name, and I looked up from my desk. "Oh, uh could you repeat the question," I asked timidly, as a few students began to giggle. "Who would you like as your partner for the project, Ms. Heartfilia," I thought for a second. "_I won't be able to go to anyone's house so I guess I'll have to do it by myself." _I took a quick breath,

"I'llâ€¦ do it by myself," I tried to say with as much lightheartedness as I could. I gave a reassuring smile, hoping the teacher would let me. He nodded before moving on. I breathed in relief.

I jumped as the bell rang to signal my off period. I gathered my books and headed off to my usual spot to study. As I was walking, someone stuck out their foot causing me to fall and land face-first on the floor of the school. I heard a snicker above me. I looked up to see a blonde staring at me.

"I heard you and Natsu are a "thing" now," she made air quotes around 'thing.'

"Just so you know Natsu is mine and he'll always be, even though he doesn't know it, and if I ever see you around him again then i might have toâ€¦" she paused, "Let's just say Natsu won't really see you again," she smiled menacingly.

I stood up and gathered my books. I started to walk away but she called after me.

"Hey slut! Nice scars!" she began to laugh as I realized my shirt had come up revealing some old scars that hadn't healed right. Tears began to form in my eyes as i pulled down my shirt and started to run off. I started to cry in spite of myself. I felt the the warm tears running down my flushed cheeks.

I continued running until I hit something tall and buff. I looked up to see a smiling Natsu above me.

"Hey Lu!" he stopped and his smile faded. Before long he was next to me helping me up.

"What's wrong? Who hurt you!?" i could hear his voice rising and anger boiling inside of him, "I swear to God when I find them, I'll!" I cut him off, "Natsu it's fine. I'm fine," I looked at him reassuringly, but his expression didn't change. He took my shoulders in his arms. "Luce," I tried to wipe away my tears to show him I was fine, but I found myself unable to move. He held his gaze. "_It almost looks like!". No it can't be i couldn't get my hopes up who could ever love me?" _I thought. "It was just some blonde chick!" He cut me off "Elle!" He said with irritation. "Sorry she thinks that i like her, no biggie." I smiled. That was reassuring.

Soon school was over and Natsu was walking me home. When we were a block away from my house, I paused in shock. My dad's car was in the driveway. He wasn't supposed to be home until later. I told natsu that I was ok to walk the rest of the way alone. He hesitated a little before running off with a wave. I hurried off into my house.

"LUCY DEAR!" My father said sarcastically. I cringed. He walked in the room obviously drunk. "So! who's that Natsu kid?"

End
file.